

# Here's what Americans say they need to earn to feel rich, or even just financially secure

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/07/06/success/how-much-to-feel-rich/index.html>

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**(CNN)** — They are age-old questions: How much do you need to feel financially secure? How much would you need to feel rich?

More than 2,500 US adults said they would need to earn, on average, \$233,000 a year to feel financially secure and \$483,000 annually to feel rich or to attain financial freedom, according to a new survey from Bankrate.

Just for comparison's sake, the median earnings for a full-time, year-round worker in 2021 was \$56,473, according to the US Census Bureau.

Of course, there is no objective or "right" answer to these questions. What it takes for one person to feel financially comfortable – or like they're set for life – can depend a lot on their early childhood experiences with money, how much they perceive those around them to have, their current financial situation, the cost of living in their area and, if they've thought about it, what is most important to them in life.

Plus, a big income isn't necessarily a guarantee of financial security if you're living paycheck to paycheck, not saving much and carrying big debts.

The same goes if you're feeling insecure about your economic prospects.

In Bankrate's survey 72% of respondents said they did not currently feel financially secure, although 46% said they expect to someday.

The reasons cited for not feeling secure today included high inflation (63%); the economic environment (48%); insufficient emergency savings (42%); insufficient retirement savings (41%); rising interest rates (36%); low pay or low career mobility (33%); high debt (26%); and housing affordability (25%).